

febnet

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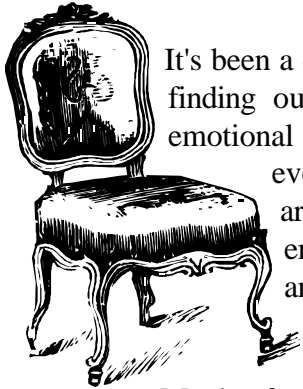
From Your Federal Executive Board

November-December 2001

CHAIR'S CORNER

By Larry Andriesen

Dear Federal Colleagues:



It's been a difficult few weeks, and we're all finding our own ways to cope with the emotional and physical effects of the tragic events of September 11. I hope you are all dealing successfully with the emotional impacts to yourselves and your families. If not, there are many sources in our community that offer help in hard times.

Much of our work life has taken dramatic turns, and I truly appreciate everyone's efforts to keep meeting the needs of our customers.

Several employees have asked what they can do to help, and the best answer I can come up with is to keep doing what you do and do it well. The government is under a lot of pressure these days, and it's important that those of us out here "where the rubber meets the road" stay focused on our jobs and not get caught up in all the rhetoric. We need to continue to contribute to our respective missions in a most professional manner. In that way, we can show the American people that serving them are foremost in our thoughts and in our actions. Since this is my first message to you as Chair of the Seattle Federal Executive Board, I thought I would share a little bit about myself. My regular job is that of Regional Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration Northwest Mountain Region. Most of you have probably never laid eyes on me. One of the reasons is that I don't work in the Jackson Federal Building or in any other of the downtown Federal facilities. The FAA Regional Headquarters is located in Renton

and that is where I spend most of my time. From there, FAA employees manage the major programs of the FAA in the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah.

I can claim native Washingtonian status, having been born in Kirkland back when the Black Ball ferry still operated across Lake Washington. Like a lot of other families, ours moved to California in the fifties and I received most of my schooling there. After a short stint with Boeing in the mid-sixties, I went to work for the U.S. Air Force. I joined the FAA in 1974 and have had assignments in the other Washington, Fort Worth, Texas, and finally back to The Great Northwest in 1989. I have been a Federal employee for almost 34 years. I am married, have four kids ranging from 16 to 32 years of age, and reside in Kent.

I don't need to tell you how much more important your gift to the Combined Federal Campaign will be this year. You know all the reasons. Many of you may have already contributed to some of the national relief efforts, and I commend you for those gifts. But what about when those gifts run out? Many agencies rely on a steady flow of funds throughout the year to accomplish their goals. That is why giving each pay period through payroll deduction is so important. Also, there is concern that some of the smaller agencies in our community may be overlooked in this year's campaign. If you are not already a CFC giver, I urge you to get involved. If you are a regular giver, I urge you to dig a little bit deeper this year.

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Accent on Agencies



Bureau of Indian Affairs, Seattle Support Center

Alaska Resupply Operation

The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Seattle Support Center, "Alaska Resupply Operation", has had a long and colorful history. Since its inception in 1894 we've been under many names

and locations in the Seattle Area. Our prime objective is to meet the "fuel needs" of the people of Alaska.

Vessels like the "USS Bear" and the "USMS Boxer" were used by the Alaska Resupply Operation when the program began. During the North Star years we maintained our own

vessels. The "USMS North Star" was engaged by Admiral Byrd for a special expedition to the Antarctic in 1939. "USMS North Star II" and the "North Star" were called into action in support of the war effort in 1941. Last, but probably the best known was the "North Star III." Throughout the years of the North Stars numerous voyages many maritime awards and honors were bestowed upon the vessels and its crews. With the de-commission of the "North Star III" in 1984, that ended Seattle Support Centers involvement as a carrier in Alaskan waters.

Seattle Support Center is unique in its operation since our program is not federally funded. We do not receive annual appropriated funds like other federal agencies. We operate by the funds generated by our revenue in bulk fuels. The primary fuels we offer are heating fuel, gasoline, and diesel #2. The high cost of transportation all but eliminated shipments of dry cargo to many remote areas in Western Alaska by our office.

Seattle Support Center is under the direction of the Alaska Regional Office, Niles Cesar, Regional Director, located in Juneau, Alaska. Alan Mather is Traffic Manager in Seattle.

Our services are available to everyone in Alaska, a person need not be an Alaskan Native to utilize or purchase.

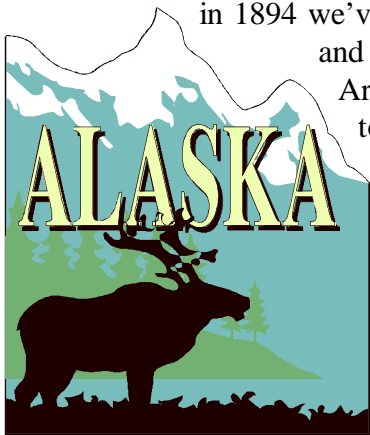
We are required by 25 CFR, Part 142 to publish an annual tariff describing our services and costs. Our clients are mostly fishermen, because in the past few years the fishing industry has been disastrous. We work closely with the State of Alaska's Disaster Relief Program to help clients in the purchase of bulk fuels during their financial difficulties.

Seattle Support Center maintains our own "Billing Dept." and all accounts and payments are processed in our office. All transactions entered into the Federal Finance System and all deposits made to the Federal Depository.

During FY-2002, Seattle Support Center will bring a new program into effect for the people of Alaska. This program will consolidate the purchase of bulk fuels and help bring down the transportation cost for all Alaskans using this program. This program will be available to individuals, corporations, federal and state agencies, churches, small and large businesses.

U.S. Small Business Administration

Congress created the SBA in 1953 to help America's entrepreneurs form successful small enterprises. Today, SBA's program offices, in every state, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, offer financing, training





U.S. Small Business Administration

and advocacy for small firms. In addition, the SBA works with thousands of lending,

educational and training institutions nationwide.

The Seattle SBA District Office is the largest district office in Region X, and encompasses most of Western Washington. We serve 15 of the 39 counties in the state: King, Pierce, Snohomish, Thurston, Kitsap, Skagit, Whatcom, Island, San Juan, Clallam, Jefferson, Mason, Grays Harbor, Lewis and Pacific. The population of these counties is approximately 3.5 million, or about 72% of the Washington State's total. The fifteen counties also account for over 70% of the business in Washington State.

The Seattle District Area includes Seattle, Tacoma, Bellevue, and Everett. The SBA Spokane District Office serves Eastern Washington. The SBA District Office in Portland, Oregon serves Clark, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum and Skamania.

Aerospace manufacturing, timber, agriculture, fishing, high tech, and tourism dominate the state's economy. With over 90% of Washington State's business being classified as small, the SBA financial programs and technical assistance services are of vital importance to the community.

The SBA performs two primary functions for small business owners: We provide them with access to capital they might not otherwise have, and we provide technical assistance in the form of counseling and training.

SBA is the government's most flexible and innovative economic development agency. The 7(a) Loan Guarantee programs play a central role in helping stimulate the economy. Most of our financing programs rely on guarantees of loans made by private lenders, so the actual cost to the taxpayer to deliver these programs is minimal.

We promote our programs and services to small business owners and entrepreneurs through public/private partnerships. An example is the Seattle Business Enterprise Center, a comprehensive self-directed education and

research facility for small business owners and entrepreneurs. The Center gives small companies a way to put the future in perspective through cutting edge technology and computerization. Since it's inception in 1991 the Center has helped thousands of businesses in Western Washington. There are also satellite locations in Tacoma, Auburn and Mt. Vernon.

We offer free one-on-one counseling and workshops through our partners that include:

SCORE, Service Corps of Retired Executives, are working and retired executives and business owners who donate their time and expertise to provide confidential counseling and mentoring. Client needs are matched with business counselor expertise.

The Internal Revenue Service, which helps entrepreneurs understand their federal tax responsibilities as employers and as small business owners. Federal tax representatives provide assistance with tax problems and business tax questions.

The Small Business Development Centers specialists work with existing businesses and have significant practical experience owning and managing a wide variety of small businesses. The program targets existing small businesses that want to improve or expand their current operations.

The Washington State Office of Minority & Women's Business Enterprise helps small business owners through the certification process and increases their accessibility to state and federal contracts.

Located in downtown Seattle and Everett the **Women's Business Centers** provides technical assistance for start-up and existing women business owners.

To find out more about SBA's program and services visit www.sba.gov or call us in Seattle at 206-553-7310



FEDERAL FOOTSTEPS



Open Season - Health Care Benefits

During the annual Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) open season, you may enroll, change health plans or options, cancel your FEHB enrollment, and change your participation in premium conversion (waive or being participation). By regulation, an open season is held each year, in 2001 running from November 12 through December 10. Scheduled Health Benefit Fairs are being held around the federal community. If you need further information, contact your Human Resources Office or go to the Office of Personnel Management website at www.opm.gov

4.6 Percent Pay Raise

The January 2002 pay raise remains slated to be 4.6 percent. Both the House and Senate versions of fiscal 2002 Treasury-Postal appropriations bills specify 4.6 percent, and although the Bush administration has continued to advocate 3.6 percent, the higher figure seems likely to stand. The Treasury-Postal measure may be enacted on its own or folded into a larger catchall budget measure.



The White House is expected to announce by the end of November how the January 2002 raise will be divided between across-the-board and locality pay. The Federal Salary Council, a group of agency, union and outside pay experts, recently recommended that if the upcoming raise is 4.6 percent, that 3.6 percentage points be paid across-the-board and the money available for the remaining percentage point be divided up as locality pay. That would make the final total

slightly higher than 4.6 percent in some localities and slightly lower in others. For wage grade employees, who are under a separate locality pay system, the pending appropriation bill once again would cap the raises indicated for them to the GS average amount.

GSA Posts Security Guidance

The General Services Administration has posted material on its web site for federal workers who sort, deliver or open mail on how to handle anthrax threats. Options available include free on-line and classroom training and a fee-based on-line course that provides a record of completion and test score. The site also has information on dealing with chemical, biological and bomb threats and an anthrax advisory for federal mail centers, among other information.

Federal Premier Lodging Program

Denver, Colorado is the most recent city to be added to the Federal Premier Lodging Program. According to statistics, a large number of federal travelers from our community travel to Denver. This is a government wide program administered by GSA that establishes contractual relationships with various lodging facilities at selected cities of a set number of rooms at rates at or below per diem. The rates all for short business trips as well as stays of 30 days or more. Benefits of the FPLP is that properties guarantee rooms with guaranteed rates, there are more lodging choices, they are quality commercial hotels at convenient locations and the properties are in compliance with safety and security requirements.



Properties in the Denver area include: Holiday Inn Lakewood, Candlewood Suites Tech Center, Embassy Suites Denver SE, Radisson Hotel Denver Stapleton, Holiday Inn Hotel South, Courtyard by Marriott West, The Westin Westminster, Four Points by Sheraton, Four

Points cherry Creek. In addition there are extended stay properties. For further information you can visit GSA's web site at www.policyworks.gov/plp.

Office of Homeland Security Established

The newly established Cabinet-level, Office of Homeland Security, was established in October with Tom Ridge, former Pennsylvania governor, as Director. Efforts are to coordinate implementation of a national security strategy to prepare the United States for, and make it safe from, terrorist attacks. Ridge has the responsibility of coordinating the preparation and prevention efforts of more than 40 federal agencies with some role in homeland security. The Office needs to determine what kinds of attacks are most likely to happen in the United States, what the government can do to prevent such attacks and where to focus personnel and resources. Additionally the office has the responsibility of educating and advising Americans about security threats.

Did you know that in Washington last year 266 people died in alcohol-related crashes?

That's 266 too many.



From December 14-16, law enforcement throughout Washington will conduct saturation patrols to remove impaired drivers from the state's roadways.

Please don't drink and drive.



A collaborative effort led by the U.S. Department of Transportation
For more information, visit www.nhtsa.dot.gov

Source: Fatality Analysis Reporting System, U.S. Department of Transportation

UNCLE HAM



Is It Ham, Bacon or Pork??????

It depends on your point of view. The CFC has a mascot this year and his name is "Uncle Ham". There have been lots of questions about Uncle Ham, the Pig sponsored by the Seattle Federal Executive Board. It is an exact replica of the pigs that were adorning the streets of Seattle during the summer. The idea conceived in August, as a suggestion by two federal employees, was approved by the CFC Planning Committee. Artists Carmen Boggs and Daniel F. Gough designed the federal pig painting it red, white and blue with stars and stripes. The patriotic theme is evident, and a lot of goodwill and humor have been generated to try and "bring home the bacon" for the CFC. At a recent visit to an agency, employees had PIGtures taken with Uncle Ham for a donation with the benefits to CFC.

Uncle Ham has visited both Federal Buildings in downtown Seattle, the National Archives and Records Administration, the Federal Aviation Administration, the Corps of Engineers, Federal Center South, NOAA, National Marine Fisheries, Veterans Administration and the Internal Revenue Service with many more agency visits scheduled throughout the campaign.

When you see Uncle Ham at the various federal facilities during the CFC campaign, remember to "ham" it up, give him a pat, and give generously to CFC.





SEATTLE FEB HAPPENINGS

Happy Anniversary SFEB



Federal Executive Boards around the country are celebrating their 40th Anniversary. In November 1961, President John F. Kennedy issued a Presidential Directive that established Federal Executive Boards. FEB's were created to support and promote national initiatives of the President and the Administration as well as to serve local needs of federal agencies, military installations and the postal sector. FEBs also serve as a focal point for the federal government within local communities through outreach and partnership activities. The Seattle FEB is one of the original Boards serving the federal community in the Puget Sound area.

Operation K



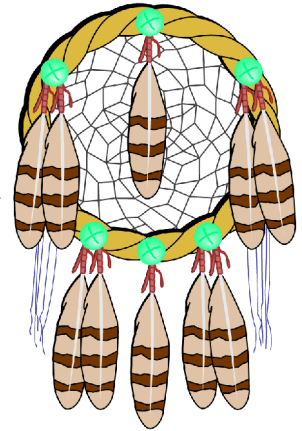
The SFEB takes pride in the federal communities participation in one of our most worthwhile events of the season, our annual toy drive. Each year federal agencies participate in this event to collect toys that will be distributed by the Salvation Army to families in need. This year we have already been asked to give to those effected by the events of September 11 but now more than ever we need to remember those in our own communities as well. The Salvation Army collects toys that are taken to special shops where money is never exchanged. The shelves are stocked with new toys, games and children's clothing that are

contributed by people like you. The shop doors are open in early December to help qualified parents select a special gift for their child. Children receive a holiday gift from their parents, not from charity. This helps foster family unity and self-esteem. Last year we outdid ourselves overflowing the 4th floor entrance of the Jackson Federal Building with items for the kids.

What can you do to help? Bring your unwrapped gifts for children and youth for the Operation "K" pick up on Wednesday, December 12 from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. to the fourth floor or Second Ave entrance of the Jackson Federal Building, 915 Second Ave. Let's see if we can't top what we did last year!!!!

Native American Awareness Celebration

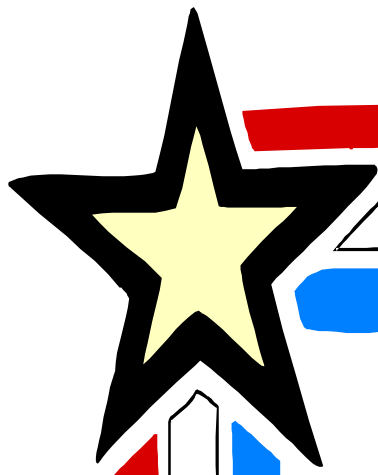
The Unified Programs Committee of the SFEB celebrated the heritage of the Native American Community with a special program on November 14 in the South Auditorium of the Jackson Federal Building. Ms. Joan Staples-Baum from the Minnesota White Earth Chippewa Tribe was our featured guest speaker.



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Spotlighting Federal Agencies - Did you know.....

By Kay Coles James, Director of Office of Personnel Management

Since Wednesday, September 11th tens of thousands of federal employees have commuted past the Pentagon into Washington, DC. The gash in the side of the building looks as if a giant had smashed his fist into the structure. It is worse in New York City. Part of the skyline is missing. It's as if two mountains had suddenly vanished. The eyes see, but the brain disbelieves.

We are all aware that for some federal workers, this is a time for which they have planned and trained for years: The 7,000 FBI agents conducting what will surely be the greatest manhunt in history; the Secret Service agents protecting the president and other national leaders; the workers of the Federal Emergency Management Agency who rushed life-saving equipment to the Pentagon and then draped a giant American flag from the roof.

Little seen, and little noticed by most Americans, are the thousands of federal government employees who did not leave for home on Sept. 11 even as planes were falling from the sky, even as their office buildings were officially closed. From Los Angeles to Kansas City to Washington, DC federal workers stayed at their desks. They worked the phones, they processed the needed paperwork, they made necessary decisions. In short, they kept the government of the United States running.

A liberal leave policy was announced to federal workers saying in effect, if you are upset, if you want to be home with your family we understand. The so called rank-and-file gratefully considered this offer from their leaders. But, most of them respectfully chose otherwise, embracing a deeply held sense of duty and come to work in huge numbers.

At the Federal Reserve Board offices, office administrators and systems analysts helped the Fed keep the banking system and money supply stable. Along America's 7,600 miles of border, and 12,000 miles of coastline, the US Border Patrol and Coast Guard kept an eye out for hostile visitors. The agents of the US Customs Service made sure shipments coming into the United States were safe.

The people of the Food and Drug Administration ensured a quality blood supply from the first day of the crisis. The people of the Center for Disease Control sampled the air, dust and water in New York City, and the environmental Protection Agency assessed the cleanup. The people of the US Department of Transportation implemented a myriad of decisions on safe travel in every part of the United States. Every person on the front lines was backed up by thousands who manned federal offices.

Everywhere, the prosaic but sustaining work of government continued. The US Department of Agriculture kept the school lunch program going. The Farm Services Agency never broke faith with America's farmers. The Social Security Administration sent the checks to retirees on time.

They add did this, trusting that the men and women of the Federal Protective Service would keep them safe in the more than 8,000 federal buildings in which they work.

September 11 was a day of atrocity on the East Coast. It was also a day of psychological warfare waged by terrorists who intended to cripple a great nation with fear. The federal employees of America instantly grasped the nature of this threat. Through a million quiet acts of defiance, they showed that America is unafraid.

